

## *Inland Fisheries and Wildlife*

**PUBLIC 530**      **An Act to Allow Landowner Permits to be Issued for Turkey**      **LD 1939**  
**EMERGENCY**      **Hunting**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHICK	OTP	
EDMONDS		

Public Law 2001, chapter 530 allows the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to issue turkey hunting permits to landowners who keep their land open to the public for hunting.

Public Law 2001, chapter 530 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 14, 2002.

**PUBLIC 536**      **An Act to Require the Owner of a Submerged Snowmobile or Boat**      **LD 1968**  
**EMERGENCY**      **to Remove the Snowmobile or Boat**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CLOUGH	OTP-AM      MAJ	H-844
MICHAUD MH	OTP-AM      MIN	

Public Law 2001, chapter 536 requires the owner of a snowmobile or motorboat submerged in the inland waters of the State for longer than 24 hours to notify the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. It also prohibits the operation of a snowmobile on open water areas of public inland waters and requires that the owner or operator of a snowmobile submerged in violation of this section remove the snowmobile within 24 hours and pay any damages resulting from the submersion.

Public Law 2001, chapter 536 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 18, 2002.

**PUBLIC 610**      **An Act to Ban the Use of Aircraft While Hunting**      **LD 2078**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CARPENTER	OTP-AM      MAJ	S-483
DUNLAP	ONTP      MIN	

Public Law 2001, chapter 610 prohibits the use of aircraft to hunt big game.

**PUBLIC 638**      **An Act to Implement Municipal Recommendations Regarding**      **LD 2204**  
**Surface Water Use on Great Ponds**

## ***Inland Fisheries and Wildlife***

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP      MAJ	
	ONTP     MIN	

Public Law 2001, chapter 638 prohibits the use of personal watercraft on Middle Branch Pond in the Town of Waterboro and on Crystal Lake in the Town of Washington. It also prohibits the use of personal watercraft on Highland Lake or Woods Pond in the Town of Bridgton if the personal watercraft is rented and does not display a decal identifying the rental agency that owns the personal watercraft. Additionally, Public Law 2001, chapter 638 prohibits the operation of motorboats having more than 10 horsepower on Middle Branch Pond in the Town of Waterboro or on Adams Pond, Foster Pond or Otter Pond in the Town of Bridgton.

<b>PUBLIC 655</b>	<b>An Act to Amend Maine's Wild Turkey Hunting Season</b>	<b>LD 1923</b>
<b>EMERGENCY</b>		

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NUTTING J	OTP-AM	H-1076 DUNLAP S-430

Public Law 2001, chapter 655 authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to from establish a fall wild turkey hunting season and removes the prohibition on using electronic turkey calls. It also adds wild turkeys to the statutes dealing with nuisance wild animals.

<b>PUBLIC 690</b>	<b>An Act to Stabilize the Funding of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife</b>	<b>LD 1929</b>
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<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DUNLAP	OTP-AM    A	H-1021
CARPENTER	ONTP       B	H-1061 DUNLAP
	OTP-AM    C	S-600 GOLDTHWAIT

Public Law 2001, chapter 690 does the following:

1. Establishes the Fiscal Stability Program to require the executive branch, beginning with the 2004-2005 biennial budget and for each biennial budget thereafter, to submit a biennial budget that includes a General Fund appropriation of 18% of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife's requested biennial budget;
2. Establishes the Wildlife Enthusiast's Conservation Appreciation, Recreation and Enjoyment support program to encourage voluntary support for non-game programs and services provided by the department;

## *Inland Fisheries and Wildlife*

3. Authorizes the department to charge a fee of up to \$10 to cover administrative costs for the issuance of miscellaneous licenses and permits that do not have a fee provided by law;
4. Removes the fee schedule for boys and girls camp fishing licenses that is based on the number of campers and replaces it with a fee of \$75 for all camps;
5. Increases the permit fee for migratory waterfowl to \$5.50 and a bear hunting permit to \$25 for residents and \$65 for nonresidents;
6. Sets bass tournament fees for weigh-in tournaments at \$50 per day and for catch-and-release at \$10 per day and establishes a 3-year guide license for \$79;
7. Increases the fee for an antlerless deer permit from \$1 to \$10 and removes the prohibition against junior hunters transferring an antlerless deer or turkey permit to a qualified person;
8. Removes the requirement that a person must show proof of a valid hunting license or big game license before being issued a moose or turkey permit;
9. Creates a 10-chance application for a moose permit for nonresidents for \$50;
10. Sets the registration fee for all-terrain vehicles at \$17 for residents and \$35 for nonresidents and requires that after administrative costs, 50% of the revenues raised be deposited in the ATV Recreational Management Fund and that the department use a portion of the funds for an ATV law enforcement grant-in-aid program;
11. Repeals the expanded archery season and corresponding cross-references effective January 1, 2003; and
12. Appropriates \$30,000 to the Department of Conservation, Boating Facility Program for repairs to the Verona boat launch.

**PUBLIC 693**      **An Act to Implement the Unanimous and the Majority**      **LD 2081**  
**Recommendations of the Commission to Study Equity in the**  
**Distribution of Gas Tax Revenues Attributable to Snowmobiles,**  
**All-terrain Vehicles and Watercraft**

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report  
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted  
H-1054

Public Law 2001, chapter 693 sets the percentages of gasoline tax revenue attributable to motorboats, snowmobiles and ATVs to provide a \$750,000 increase over current funding levels for years starting on July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2005. After June 30, 2005, the percentages established by this law will be applied to the current total gasoline tax revenue to determine the amount attributable to motorboats, snowmobiles and ATVs. Public Law 2001, chapter 693 also requires the Department of Conservation, the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Department of Marine Resources to update, every 5 years, their "Public Access to Maine Waters Strategic Plan" and their snowmobile and ATV needs assessment.

## *Inland Fisheries and Wildlife*

**RESOLVE 104      Resolve, to Further Protect Endangered and Threatened Species      LD 2104**  
**Through Better Communication**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BROOKS NUTTING J	OTP-AM	H-1018

Resolve 2001, chapter 104 requires the Department of Conservation and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to evaluate the current systems of communication between the departments, private landowners and foresters regarding the location of endangered and threatened species on private property. It directs the departments to report their findings and any proposed legislation to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife by January 2, 2003